2001 Census of Canada

Nova Scotia Perspective

Release # 2

Age and Sex

July, 2002

NOVA SCOTIA
Department of Finance
Statistics Division

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Department of Finance
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NOVA SCOTIA HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE 2001 CENSUS OF CANADA
Age and Sex

- Young people under twenty years of age made up 25% of the population, those aged 20 to 64 had a 61.1% representation and seniors aged 65 and above had a 13.9% representation.

- Nova Scotia and Quebec tied for highest median age for all provinces and territories. At 38.8 years the median age was well above the 37.6 years seen at the national level. This is the greatest ten year growth in median age this century.

- Nova Scotia has the third highest proportions of people aged 65 and over in the country. It has increased from 12.6% in 1991 to 13.9% in the latest census. The proportion of elderly people aged eighty years and over rose 38% during the same period to number 34,235.

- The working age population is also getting older. Those aged 25 to 34 declined 26% over the last decade while those aged 45 to 64 increased 35% over the same period. Projections show this group rising a further 25% over the next decade.

- There were 165 people aged 100 or more. Women represented 87.8% of this group

- Nova Scotia had the lowest ratio of men to women in Canada at 93.6. The Canada average was 96.1 with the highest ratio found in Nunavit at 107.2.

Additional Information

Statistics Canada's next scheduled release date for data from the 2001 Census is October 22, 2002. This release will be Marital Status, Families and Households. Further information is available by contacting the Statistics Division, Nova Scotia Department of Finance at 902-424-5691.

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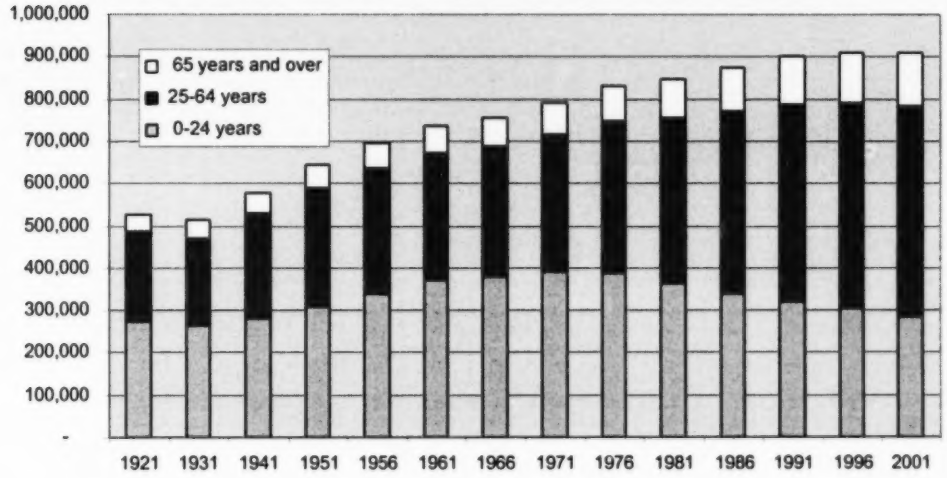
Nova Scotia Historical Population Growth by Age Group



- Based on the 2001 unadjusted Census of Population, Nova Scotia's total population has shown a small decline from 909,300 to 908,000 between 1996 and 2001.

- As shown in the above graph, the composition of the population by age group has changed dramatically since 1971.

- In 1971, the number of people under the age of 25 peaked at 389,400 and has since declined to 283,000 in 2001.

- The 25 to 64 age group continues to grow although at a slightly slower pace than experienced in the 1971 to 1996 period. In 2001, there were 498,500 people aged 25 to 64 compared to 327,100 in 1971.

- The number of seniors, aged 65 and over, increased from 72,500 in 1971 to 126,600 in 2001, an increase of 75%. In Canada the number of seniors increased 123%.

- In Canada the number of working age population and seniors increased at a faster rate than in Nova Scotia. The sharp decline of the under 25 age population in Nova Scotia contrasts with only a slight decrease of this age group for Canada. As a result, Nova Scotia's seniors as a share of total population is increasing at a faster rate than the Canadian average.

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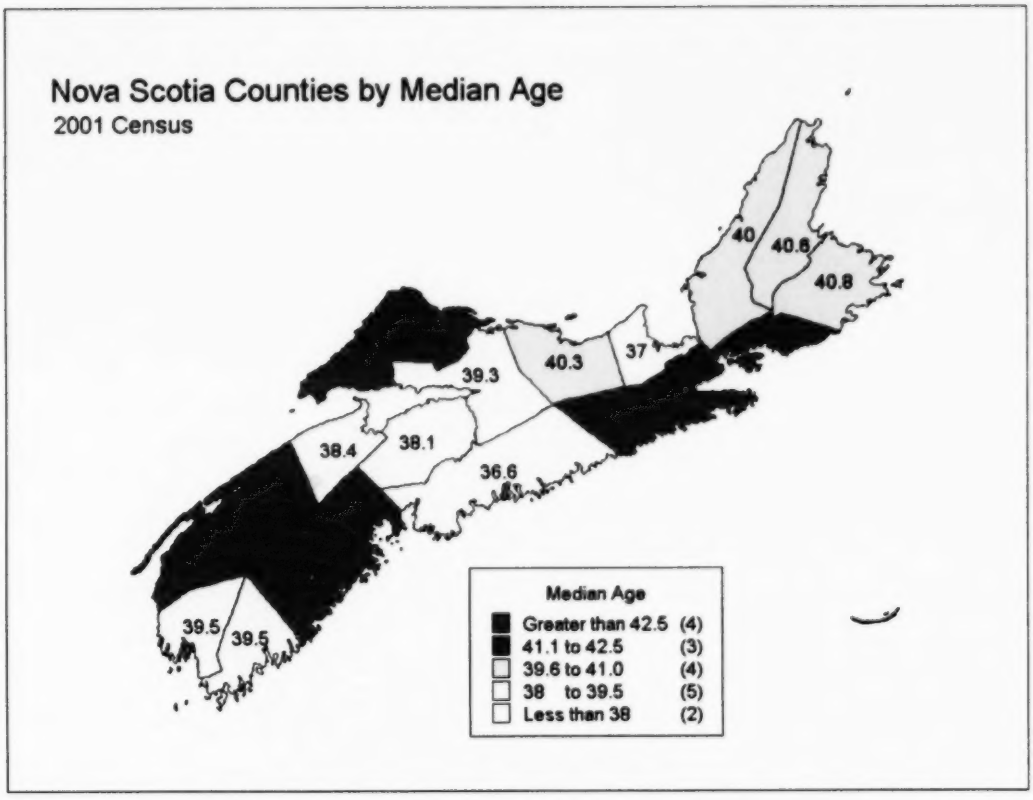

- The Canada and Nova Scotia median ages were 37.6 years and 38.8 years respectively.
- Nova Scotia tied with Quebec as one of the two provinces having the highest median age.
- In the past ten years the median age in the province has increased 5.4 years, well above the 4.1 years seen at the national level.
- The median ages at the county level ranged from a low of 36.6 for Halifax to a high of 43.3 for Guysborough.
- Sixteen of Nova Scotia's eighteen counties had a median age higher than the national average.

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Percentage Distribution by Age Groups for Nova Scotia Counties
2001

	Total	Male	Female	0-19	%	20-64	%	65+	%	Median Age
Nova Scotia	908,005	439,090	468,920	226,770	25.0	554,660	61.1	126,565	13.9	38.8
Annapolis County	21,775	10,590	11,180	5,100	23.4	12,570	57.7	4,125	18.9	43.0
Antigonish County	19,575	9,505	10,075	5,685	29.0	11,340	57.9	2,550	13.0	37.0
Cape Breton County	109,330	51,790	57,540	27,910	25.5	63,940	58.5	17,480	16.0	40.8
Colchester County	49,310	23,980	25,330	12,735	25.8	29,280	59.4	7,300	14.8	39.3
Cumberland County	32,605	15,840	16,770	7,670	23.5	18,840	57.8	6,100	18.7	42.3
Digby County	19,545	9,505	10,045	4,285	21.9	11,665	59.7	3,605	18.4	42.2
Guysborough County	9,825	4,905	4,920	2,270	23.1	5,700	58.0	1,865	19.0	43.3
Halifax County	359,185	172,745	186,435	88,920	24.8	230,730	64.2	39,535	11.0	36.6
Hants County	40,515	20,075	20,445	10,985	27.1	24,470	60.4	5,060	12.5	38.1
Inverness County	19,935	9,790	10,150	5,305	26.6	11,695	58.7	2,940	14.7	40.0
Kings County	58,865	28,610	30,255	15,600	26.5	35,065	59.6	8,200	13.9	38.4
Lunenburg County	47,590	23,420	24,170	10,675	22.4	28,580	60.1	8,330	17.5	42.6
Pictou County	46,965	22,655	24,310	11,750	25.0	27,760	59.1	7,450	15.9	40.3
Queens County	11,720	5,700	6,025	2,575	22.0	7,010	59.8	2,125	18.1	42.8
Richmond County	10,225	5,040	5,185	2,475	24.2	5,930	58.0	1,820	17.8	42.2
Shelburne County	16,230	8,055	8,175	4,000	24.6	9,765	60.2	2,470	15.2	39.5
Victoria County	7,960	3,935	4,025	2,050	25.8	4,655	58.5	1,250	15.7	40.6
Yarmouth County	26,845	12,950	13,895	6,795	25.3	15,680	58.4	4,365	16.3	39.5

Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Canada

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Percentage Distribution by Age Groups for Canada and Provinces
2001

	Total	Male	Female	0-19	%	20-64	%	65+	%	Median Age
Canada	30,007,095	14,706,850	15,300,240	7,778,870	25.9	18,339,680	61.1	3,888,550	13.0	37.6
Nunavut	26,745	13,835	12,910	12,440	46.5	13,705	51.2	590	2.2	22.1
Northwest Territories	37,360	19,120	18,245	13,065	35.0	22,660	60.7	1,635	4.4	30.1
Alberta	2,974,805	1,486,590	1,488,220	840,555	28.3	1,825,855	61.4	308,405	10.4	35.0
Yukon Territory	28,675	14,445	14,230	8,320	29.0	18,620	64.9	1,725	6.0	36.1
Saskatchewan	978,935	481,755	497,180	285,540	29.2	545,820	55.8	147,570	15.1	36.7
Manitoba	1,119,585	549,600	569,985	314,140	28.1	649,025	58.0	156,420	14.0	36.8
Ontario	11,410,050	5,577,055	5,832,990	3,002,165	26.3	6,935,720	60.8	1,472,175	12.9	37.2
Prince Edward Island	135,295	65,755	69,540	36,875	27.3	79,840	59.0	18,580	13.7	37.7
British Columbia	3,907,740	1,919,105	1,988,640	976,350	25.0	2,398,290	61.4	533,080	13.6	38.4
Newfoundland and Labrador	512,930	250,960	261,970	128,225	25.0	321,650	62.7	63,055	12.3	38.4
New Brunswick	729,495	356,705	372,795	180,770	24.8	449,800	61.7	98,940	13.6	38.6
Nova Scotia	908,010	439,085	468,920	226,770	25.0	554,660	61.1	126,565	13.9	38.8
Quebec	7,237,475	3,532,845	3,704,635	1,753,650	24.2	4,524,015	62.5	959,810	13.3	38.8

Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Canada